

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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FINAL

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Marktown Historic District
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

South West of Dickey Road

CITY, TOWN

East Chicago

STATE

Indiana

VICINITY OF

CODE

18

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1 st

COUNTY

Lake

CODE

89

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☒ DISTRICT

☐ BUILDING(S)

☐ STRUCTURE

☐ SITE

☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC

☐ PRIVATE

☒ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS

☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

☐ UNOCCUPIED

☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED

☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE

☐ MUSEUM

☒ COMMERCIAL

☒ PARK

☒ EDUCATIONAL

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

☐ ENTERTAINMENT

☐ RELIGIOUS

☐ GOVERNMENT

☐ SCIENTIFIC

☐ INDUSTRIAL

☐ TRANSPORTATION

☐ MILITARY

☐ OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Multiple Private Owners

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

East Chicago

VICINITY OF

STATE

Indiana

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

STREET & NUMBER

Lake County Court House

CITY, TOWN

Crown Point

STATE

Indiana

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Land Use, Blighting Influences, Exterior Structural

DATE

October 1972

FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☒ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Office of the Planner

CITY, TOWN

East Chicago

STATE

Indiana

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

___ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
___ FAIR

___ DETERIORATED
___ RUINS
___ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

___ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
___ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Marktown continues to present a unique appearance to the world, the result of its careful planning and design. The story behind the development of Marktown is presented under the section entitled "Statement of Significance". Here we will discuss Marktown's current and original physical state.

After determining the need for a community to house the workers in his manufacturing plant, Clayton Mark hired the noted Howard Van Doren Shaw as his architect to design this community. Mark owned 190 acres on the shore of Lake Michigan, west of the Indiana Harbor Canal and near the intersection of Riley Road and Dickey Road. The site was swampy and had to be filled, in places as much as seven feet, in order to make it usable. The resulting topography was without relief. This and the orientation of the existing roads appear to have largely determined the form of the site plan.

The original plan provided for a community of 8,000 to be housed in detached houses and row houses and large boarding houses of 40 rooms and smaller boarding houses holding one family and 8 or 10 single men. This plan, covering 190 acres, never realized, would have had a much higher density than present day Marktown principally due to the boarding houses which were planned.

As it now exists Marktown and its adjacent park cover about 40 acres and has about 1,200 people. This is bounded on the NE by the center line of Dickey Road, on the SE by the center line of Riley Road to the Youngstown Steel Boundary with the edge of the Park along this, north to the center line of 129th Street, and east to the center line of Dickey Road.

In broad terms the original plan had a series of major diagonals converging on a Market Square. One of these diagonals was Dickey Road and another was 129th Street which were existing streets. Broad Street was to form the SW-NE diagonal. Surrounding Market Square were to be the major community facilities and shopping center including a school, library, club house, hotel, stores, and public garage. In Marktown as it exists the Market Square is at the north end of the community south of the junction of 129th and Dickey Road clearly indicating that only about one-fourth of the original concept was actually materialized. Howard Van Doren Shaw's plans for the development of this square were carried out including a large fountain which was removed in 1939 to relocate Dickey Road.

Howard Van Doren Shaw had strong background in residential architecture and his work at Marktown shows a clear understanding of the need for residential development. The arrangement of Marktown's houses was done with great care. The lots are generally square with the buildings covering 35 to 40 percent of the lot. Houses have been staggered so that the windows of each house look out on the gardens of their neighbors rather than into their neighbors' windows or into blank walls. The houses are two stories in height and are connected with bush hammered concrete walls three feet high. These durable buildings had walls constructed of 10 x 10 x 4 tile, 18 inches thick, a fireproof, decay proof method. Exterior facing is stucco and originally a coordinated color scheme for buildings and trim existed. Whether or not this was executed is not known.

At the time they were built all the houses featured the most modern mechanical equipment and other services. Street rights of way are 32 feet wide with pavement width of 16

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feet. This helps create a charming northern European village effect, reinforcing the harmony and unity of the overall design. Despite their intrinsic charm, the narrow roadways cause problems for modern automobiles and as a result cars are frequently found parked on the sidewalk.

The houses in Marktown are of very similar design, the only difference being in size and in a row of supervisors houses that face the park area to the west. The typical Marktown house gains its European characteristics from the narrow streets, the closeness of the houses to the street, and the roof lines of the individual houses.

Most of the single family houses are two bay, two story houses with steep gable roofs facing the street. The entryway is in the center and originally a porch was located on one side of the door.

The double houses face with the gable ends to the street. The roofs are steep gable running to the first floor over the entry (which faces a side yard rather than the street) on each side. There are two peaks, one over each side of the double with a valley in between. By using steep gabled roofs in a variety of ways, unity is obtained without monotony. The windows in both singles and duplexes are closely paired sash type set in the same opening.

The supervisors' houses are much more conventional in design than the other houses in Marktown. They have a brick facing and a common two story, gabled roofed form.

The school and community center have not changed in form but have had an artificial stone facing added in recent years. These are low cross-gable roofed structures that are not of unusual design.

Marktown was originally owned by its developer, Mark Manufacturing Company, and when in 1920 Mark Manufacturing was absorbed by American Sheet and Tube Company it went along. Three years later Youngstown Sheet and Tube Company of Youngstown, Ohio acquired American Sheet and Tube and Marktown. In 1941, Youngstown sold Marktown to a real estate company who subsequently sold the buildings individually. Individual ownership has caused some change in the physical appearance of Marktown, but much less than might have been expected.

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Remarkably, there has been little change in the appearance of Marktown since it was first built. The design remains very cohesive and this area still possesses a great deal of the charm of a northern European village which early accounts of Marktown described. A small section of newer houses exists but does not clash in design and scale with the original structures. There are some cases of bad remodeling, particularly in alterations to porches, and some evidence of neglect and deferred maintenance, but most problems could be remedied without too much effort. The excellence of the original construction has, of course, played a major role in maintaining the area's character.

It is striking to find a village completely surrounded by one of the densest heavy manufacturing areas in the country.

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE - CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	__ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	X COMMUNITY PLANNING	__ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	__ RELIGION
1400-1499	__ ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__ CONSERVATION	__ LAW	__ SCIENCE
1500-1599	__ AGRICULTURE	__ ECONOMICS	__ LITERATURE	__ SCULPTURE
1600-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	__ EDUCATION	__ MILITARY	X SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	__ ART	__ ENGINEERING	__ MUSIC	__ THEATER
1800-1899	__ COMMERCE	__ EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__ PHILOSOPHY	__ TRANSPORTATION
1900-	__ COMMUNICATIONS	X INDUSTRY	__ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__ OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__ INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1917 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Howard Van Doren Shaw

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Marktown is significant in the historical and cultural development of not only East Chicago, but of the State of Indiana and the United States. Four areas of significance have been considered in making this review. These areas are: A. Representative of the planned industrial community movement of the late nineteenth and early 20th century; B. Part of social awareness programs spawned by the effects of the industrial revolution; C. Marktown is a major work of an important American architect, Howard Van Doren Shaw; D. Marktown contributes to the history and culture of north-western Indiana by serving as a useful, living landmark.

- A. Clayton Mark (1858-1936) was born in Fredericksburg, Pennsylvania and went to school there and in Chicago. In 1876, Mark began work as a clerk with the Chicago Malleable Iron Company later becoming secretary and director of the Chicago works. He continued to serve as vice-president and member of the board for many years, but in 1888 he began his real career by founding Mark Manufacturing Company. This company made well points which helped make possible the agricultural expansion of the midwest. The expanding company began making pipe in Evanston, Illinois and Zanesville, Ohio and mining zinc ores in Illinois, Kansas, Wisconsin, and Oklahoma. In 1916 Mark decided he needed his own steel producing capacity and purchased land in Indiana Harbor, then booming as an industrial center, for his new factory. Since the surrounding area was relatively undeveloped, Mark saw that there would be a need for housing to attract the skilled workers his operation would need. At this time the building of communities for workers was considered a concern of big industries. There are many such communities, large and small, across the United States and close by. In East Chicago, two workers' communities were actually built, Marktown and Inland Steel's Sunnyside. The model workers' community idea reached a high state of development on the shore of Lake Calumet in Pullman, Illinois and, of course, the City of Gary was initially developed by United States Steel Corporation.

The design for Marktown and the Market Square idea was strongly influenced by Shaw's earlier design for the Lake Forest, Illinois Village Square. This square was completely built according to Shaw's design unlike its Marktown counterpart which was never fully developed and has even been partly dismantled. These squares reflected Howard Van Doren Shaw's interest in English Country Architecture and his own interpretation of the style.

- B. Many of the developers of the model workers' communities did so to ameliorate the condition of the workers' lives which in the industrial society were frequently grim. The desire to provide improved living accommodations was frequently reflected in the provisions of various social and community facilities along with

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housing. Marktown provided these amenities and in the original plan even more were provided for. The part of Marktown which was actually built was evidently intended for highly skilled and supervisory workers since these were the most necessary for a successful operation. Nowhere in the biographies of Clayton Mark and Howard Van Doren Shaw is there any evidence that either of them was concerned with or even interested in social reform or welfare. They were, however, interested in quality and when the need for a workers' community was established it was apparently decided that this should be as good as possible. Although and perhaps because Marktown did not start out as a social experiment it is still a viable community with many lifelong and second generation residents with strong feelings of community pride.

- C. Howard Van Doren Shaw (1868-1926) was born in Chicago, but his father was originally from Madison, Indiana. He studied architecture at MIT and in Europe and then returned to Chicago to work with William LeBaron Jenny, widely known as the father of the modern skyscraper. In 1893 he established his own office and married Frances Wells. Their daughter, Evelyn, married the son of the well known Hoosier novelist George Barr McCutcheon. Shaw worked in clear simple straightforward style and concentrated on the development of a well ordered plan. This facet of his work is reflected in the overall plan of Marktown and in the design of its individual buildings.

Shaw designed, in addition to Marktown and Clayton Mark's own home, a number of other important buildings although most of his work was in homes for Chicago's richest and most powerful people including the Swifts, Donnellys and Ryersons. Shaw's work also included collaborating with Ralph Cram on the Fourth Presbyterian Church on Chicago's Michigan Avenue and of course, the Lake Forest Village Square. The Art Institute of Chicago was served by Shaw as a trustee for over twenty years. In 1926, only a short time before his death, Howard Van Doren Shaw was awarded the Gold Medal of the American Institute of Architects, an honor which had in sixty years only been awarded to eight other living persons. Today, the quality of Howard Van Doren Shaw's work as an architect is recognized as more and more of the work of this period is studied.

- D. We all learn from the past. One way to do this is through books, but a better way is to learn from real objects and places that came down to us relatively intact from another time. Marktown presents a living lesson in history and culture from the pioneer growth period of the Calumet Region. This region, which is America's industrial heartland, is quite young compared to other great regions of the country. Sometimes in such areas the concern for history is lost. But here there is the opportunity to preserve as a living and useful landmark of genuine architectural and cultural significance for the Calumet Region, the state and the country. The Marktown area is an important cultural resource which should be preserved and, as necessary, restored to accurately present in the intensions of the original design.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Eaton, Leonard K., Two Chicago Architects and Their Clients -- Frank Lloyd Wright and Howard Van Doren Shaw, The MIT Press, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1969.

JPA - Writer's Program, The Calumet Region Historical Guide, Board of Education, Gary, Indiana and the Gary Commercial Club and Chamber of Commerce, Garman Printing Co., 1939.

(continued)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 40

UTM REFERENCES

A 16 4611300 4611800

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C 16 460790 4611720

B 16 461030 4611510

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

D 16 460800 4612010

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

E 16/46085/4612010

Marktown is bounded on the NE by the center line of Dickey Road, on the SE by the center line of Riley Road to the Youngstown Steel Boundary with the edge of the park along this, north to the center line of 129th Street, and east to the center line of Dickey Road.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Richard Morrisroe

ORGANIZATION

City Hall

STREET & NUMBER

4525 Indianapolis Boulevard

CITY OR TOWN

East Chicago

DATE

January 13, 1975

TELEPHONE

219-398-4200

STATE

Indiana

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE X

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE February 3, 1975

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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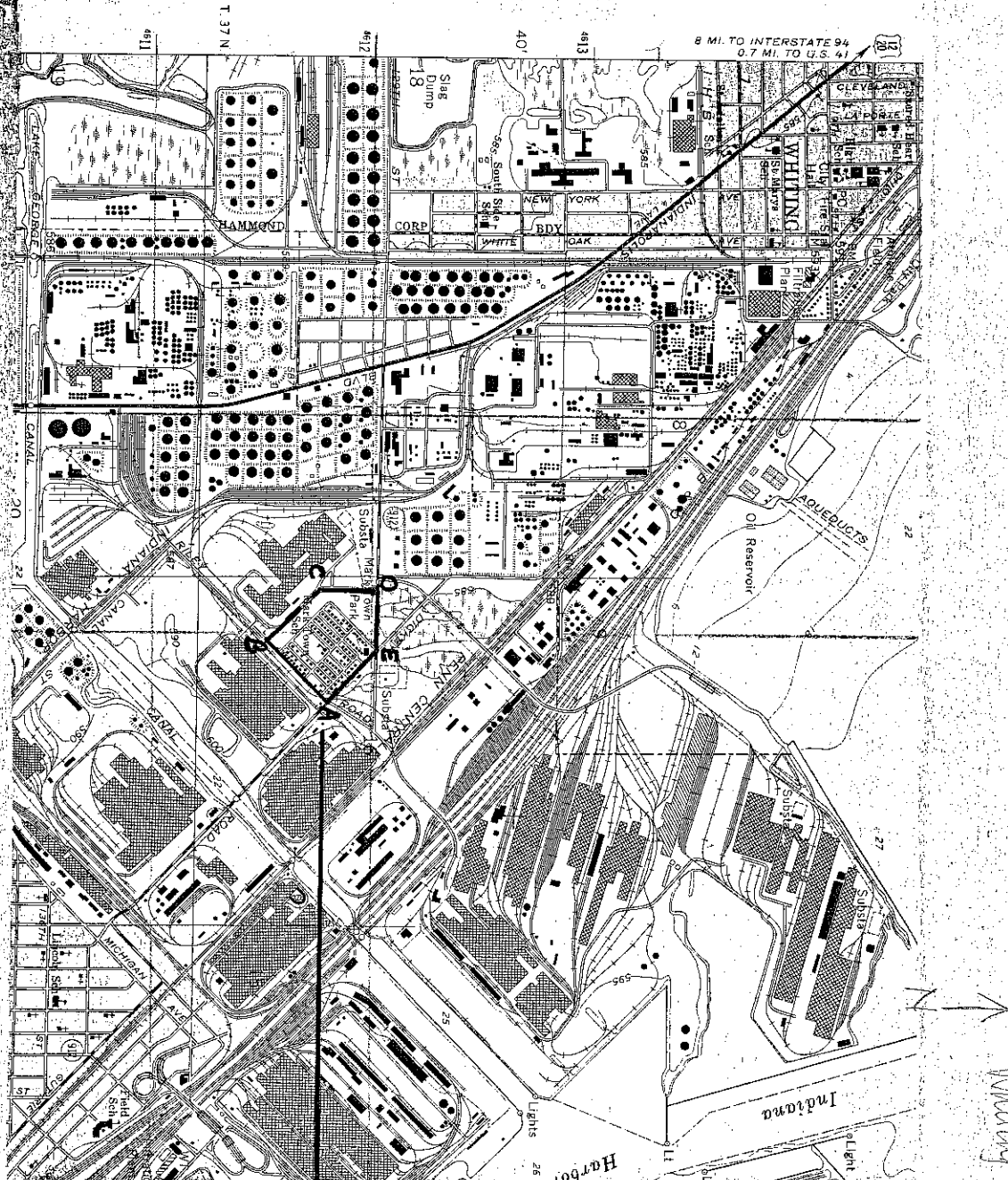
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Hess, William, Marktown Golden Jubilee (1917-1967), Marktown Golden Jubilee Committee.

Diamond Jubilee Historical Record East Chicago (75th year). 1893-1968, 1968

Warner, Ralph T. "The Town of Mark, Indiana: A Manufactures Housing Enterprise".



Form No. 10-301
(Rev. 10-74)

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Marktown Historic District
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN	VICINITY OF	COUNTY	STATE
East Chicago		Lake	Indiana

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE U.S.G.S. - 7.5 Series

SCALE 1:24000

DATE 1968

4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS